(b) Yes, Sir. As the market is still fluctuating, the extent of savings will be known only after the close of the year.

(c) No, Sir.

Revenue Collected through Enhancement of administered prices of Petrol and Petroleum products.

692. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total additional revenue mobilised through enhancement of administered prices of petrol, kerosene, diesel, cooking gas and other petroleum products year-wise during the last three financial years;

(b) whether Government are considering to transfer a part of this revenue to the States; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Information is given in the statement. (*See below*).

(b) and (c) These resources are intended to meet the requirements of funds for implementing various plan schemes including implementation of the anti-poverty programmes by the States.

Statement

(Rs 68 crore)

Year	Approximate additional collections
1983-84	29
1984-85	733
1985-86	563

Production of Solar Cookers

693. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to produce Solar Cookers on mass scale;

(b) if so, what is the contemplated annual production thereunder;

(c) what will be the price of the Cookers; and

(d) what arrangements are contemplated for the supply of these cookers to the users?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 17,000 Solar Cookers are proposed to be produced this year.

(c) The price of the box type Solar Cookers being produced presently ranges from Rs. 550 to Rs. 800 depending on the model.

(d) Under the scheme of manufacture and subsidised sale of solar cookers, presently, the cookers are being sold by the State Government nodal agencies directly or through Super Bazars, Cooperative Societies and other recognised selling centres.

Present position of Plant Load Factor

694. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of Plant Load Factor in various projects in the year 1985-86; and

(b) what are the steps taken by Government to improve the rate of Plant Load Factor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The all India average Plant Load Factor of thermal stations during 1985-86 was 52.4 per

cent. Station-wise details are given in enclosed Annexure.

[See Appendix CXXXIX, Annexure No. 41].

(b) The measures taken to improve the performance of thermal stations included implementation of the centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation scheme improvement in the quality of coal, upgradation of the skills of operation and maintenance staff early stabilisation of newly commissioned units and reduction in the outage periods of thermal units

Setting up biogas plants

695. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA:

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the achievement in setting up of bio-gas plants in the country during 1985-86 (till date) as compared to the progress made in the year 1984-85;

(b) which of the States/Union Territories have shown unsatisfactory progress in this regard and what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps ae contemplated by Government to achieve the target, if any, set for the year 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Under the National project for Biogas Development (NPBD), the State Governments and programme implementing agencies have reported till 30th June, 1986 setting up of about 1.95 lakh biogas plants during 1985-86 as against a target of 1.5 lakh plants. During 1984-85, 1.73 lakh biogas plants were installed against a target of 1.5 lakh plants.

(b) Satisfactory progress was made during 1985-86 by all States and Union Territories except Assam and North-Eastern States (excluding Mizoram). The reason for shortfall in Assam is attributable to administrative difficulties during the year 1985-86. The other North-Eastern States had very low targets on account of small potential.

(c) A target of setting up of 1.50 lakh biogas plants has been planned for the year 1986-87 under NPBD. The project provides for technical support, training programme, service facilities, repair and maintenance, monitoring and evaluation, Central subsidy, turnkey job fee, etc. Targets have already been sub-divided and communicated to States/Union Territories and agencies and work is in progress.

Irregularities in implementing Biogas Scheme in Bihar

696. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some irregularities have been reported from Patna, Nalanda, Santhal Parganas and Bhagalpur Districts of Bihar in the matter of implementing the biogas scheme of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Information is being obtained from Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay and on its receipt, the same will be made available to Rajya Sabha.

Commissioning of Thermal Power Projects

697. SHRI GANESHWAR KUSUM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of thermal power projects which have been commissioned in different parts of the country so far;

(b) the total MW of power presently being generated by each of these power projects;

(c) whether Government propose to set up some new thermal power projects during the Seventh Plan period; and